

HURLEY v Crown Wood Date: 23rd April

Played at Hurley

Innings of Hurley

P. Ridgeway		b. Storey	66
Y. Ali	LBW	Chada	25
S. Riaz		b. Crook	35
P. Hunjan	c. Cartledge	b. Godbole	5
M. Walton	Not out		9
N. Akhtar	c. Azarudeen	b. Chada	24
P. Todd	Not out		3
J. Dawson)		
T. Balchin)- Dnb		
I. Arshad)		
D. Walton)		
		Extras	29
		Total	196
		For	5

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
Godbole	8	2	16	1
Crook	8	0	41	1
Pearson	8	1	38	0
Chada	7	0	38	2
Storey	6	0	35	1
Azarudeen	3	0	15	0

Innings of Crown Wood

R. Crook		b. Balchin	28
T. Wedatilake	c. Todd	b. Balchin	13
R. Godbole	c. Todd	b. Hunjan	34
D. Cartledge		b. Ridgeway	26
J. Green		b. Akhtar	17
J. Blaney	c. Ali	b. Akhtar	8
Azarudeen		b. D. Walton	11
B. Pearson		b. Akhtar	0
M. Storey		b. Arshad	1
J. Cartledge	st. M. Walton	b. D. Walton	4
P. Chada	Not out		1
		Extras	19
		Total	162
		For	10

Bowling

	Overs	Maidens	Runs	Wkts.
I. Arshad	5.2	0	31	1
T. Balchin	6	0	29	2
N. Akhtar	5	1	19	3
D. Walton	4	0	17	2
S. Riaz	3	0	15	0
P. Ridgeway	8	3	15	1
P. Hunjan	6	0	27	1

Result: Hurley won by 34 runs.

As St. Georges day dawned bright and sunny, club cricketers up and down the land looked forward to a quintessentially English way of celebrating the day of our patron saint, on the cricket pitch. Hurley entertained Crown Wood in a forty over a side contest at Shepherds Lane and were relieved to be asked to bat first in the unseasonal heat. Phil Ridgeway (66) and Yasir Ali (25) showed good early season form posting 72 for the first wicket in seventeen overs. Ali was the first to fall, having stroked Chada straight down the ground for a maximum; he was trapped plumb in front by the very next delivery. On the anniversary of Shakespeare's birthday, Ridgeway continued to play some prosaic strokes all around the ground and having passed the 50 mark decided to hit out at every opportunity. Youngster Michael Storey got a delivery to keep a fraction low to bowl Ridgeway in the twenty-sixth over. Shobab Riaz (35) and Naeem Akhtar (24) made useful contributions as Hurley accelerated to 196 for 5 at the close of their innings.

The Crown Wood reply started in crash bang fashion with Crook (28) and Wedatilake (13) smashing forty for the first wicket inside six overs. Crook fell trying one big shot too many, as Balchin clipped the top of his leg stump. A couple of dropped catches

and a missed stumping looked like costing Hurley dearly as Crown Wood continued to stay ahead of the required run rate. The introduction of veteran left arm spinner, Ridgeway proved to be the turning point, dismissing Dave Cartledge (26) with his second delivery Ridgeway proceeded to tie the batsmen down, conceding only 15 runs from six scoring shots in his 8 overs. As the thunderclaps in the distance heralded a tempest heading towards the ground, skipper Akhtar brought himself back into the attack with devastating effect. The thirty-third over of the match proved to be a comedy of errors for the visitors, as three wickets in four deliveries from Akhtar ripped the heart out of the their middle order. The tail proved to be much ado about nothing as Dave Walton (2-17) and Imran Arshad (1-31) finished off the job for Hurley, the visitors subsiding to 162 all out in the thirty-seventh over. The threatened down pour arrived too late for Crown Wood, a case of all's well that ends well for Hurley.